

## Dane County Register of Deeds JANE LICHT

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Date: January 29, 2004

To:

Chairman Brown and members of the Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and

Military Affairs and Government Reform

From: Jodi Helgeson, Wisconsin Register of Deeds Association President Elect, and

Jane Licht, member, Wisconsin Register of Deeds Association Legislative Committee

Subject: RE: AB-365

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on AB-365.

Currently, the law allows that the register of deeds may discontinue recording documents 30 minutes prior to closing time in order to complete the recording process, receipting and bookkeeping before the end of the day. However, the tremendous increases in volume of recordings and the extra time required for reviewing documents, especially the transfer return, plats and certified survey maps, make 30 minutes inadequate. This bill would allow counties to extend that cut off time to one hour prior to closing. Pete Christianson of the Wisconsin Land Title Association informed us that his association has no objection to this provision.

The bill also makes changes in the requirements for plat media. Our Wisconsin Register of Deeds Association Technical Committee worked with members of the Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors, and DOA Plat Review officials to craft these changes. The bill discontinues the requirement for silver haloid media since this media will soon not be available because of environmental concerns. The EPA considers it a "hazardous material." We also constructed new language in a way that will allow these plats to be recorded electronically in future years.

Along those same lines, we are planning for the future and reducing manual work by allowing a cross reference in our computerized tract indexes to substitute for the requirement to make a marginal notation of affidavits of correction on certified survey maps.

We also noticed that the method for describing condominium units was missing from the list of various types of valid legal descriptions, so this bill adds that type of legal description to the list in statutes

This bill sets the fee for federal tax liens recorded in our office to be the same as other recorded documents - \$11 for a one-page document. The fact that the fee remained \$10 when all other documents were changed to \$11 was an oversight.

And lastly, the bill allows the county real property lister and the register of deeds to agree to not require a copy of the tax bill be attached to the "Termination of Decedent's Property Interest." document if the real property lister does not use that information. Its inclusion creates an unnecessary burden on the remaining spouse who needs to complete the requirements for that document.

We have been unable to find any objections to these provisions and they are important to us to be able to do our jobs more effectively and efficiently as we serve our citizen-customers. We hope you can support AB365.

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as of Wednesday, February 25, 2004

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## Senate Bill 365

the cutoff time for receipt of documents for filing and recording with a register of deeds and fees relating to federal tax lien filings.

Organization			Place pointer on icon to display comme click icon to display prior comments		
Profile	Interests	These organizations have reported lobbying on this proposal:	Date Notified	Position	Comm
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0	٥	Waukesha County	1/29/2004	介	
0	٥	Wisconsin Counties Association	2/25/2004	介	
٥	٥	Wisconsin Realtors Association	2/24/2004	1	

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